POCUS (Point of care ultrasound)

Thomas Baribeault MSN CRNA

Definitions

 Point-of-care ultrasound (POCUS) is defined as a goal-directed, bedside ultrasound examination performed by a healthcare provider to answer a specific diagnostic question or to guide performance of an invasive procedure.

Comparison

- Traditional
 - Comprehensive exam
 - Sonographer
 - Interpreted radiologist

- POCUS
 - Answers a clinical question
 - Performed and interpreted at bedside by treating clinician

Procedures

 Vascular access, peripheral nerve blocks, neuraxial, thoracentesis, pericardiocentesis, paracentesis, arthrocentesis

- Diagnosis
 - Heart
 - Pericardial effusion/Tamponade
 - Left ventricular ejection fraction
 - Diastolic dysfunction
 - Right ventricular strain
 - Aortic or mitral stenosis or regurgitation
 - Wall motion abnormalities

- Diagnosis
 - Lung
 - Pneumothorax
 - Pulmonary edema
 - Pulmonary effusion
 - Atelectasis
 - Pneumonia
 - Pulmonary embolism

- Diagnosis
 - IVC
 - CVP
 - Gastric
 - NPO status
 - Airway exam
 - Difficult airway
 - Vocal cord function
 - Intubation

- Monitoring
 - Resuscitation
 - CPR
 - FAST exam
 - Serialized exams
 - Pulmonary edema
 - Fluid resuscitation
 - Response to inotropes

Physics

- Piezoelectric crystals
 - Electricity applied to the crystals cause vibration creating ultrasound waves
 - Ultrasound waves returning to the crystals cause vibration creating an electrical signal
 - 1% sending, 99% listening

Physics

- Frequency
 - Human hearing 20-20,000Hz
 - Ultrasound 1-15 MHz (1,000,000-15,000,000)
 - Higher frequency = better resolution
 - Lower frequency = better penetration

Physics

- Wave propagation
 - Reflection
 - Maximized when beam and object is perpendicular
 - Attenuation
 - Signal is lost
 - Refraction, scatter, and absorption
 - Hyperechoic, hypoechoic, and anechoic

Probeology

- Types
 - Linear
 - 8-13 MHz
 - Curvilinear
 - 2-5 MHz
 - Wider field of view
 - Phased Array "cardiac"
 - 1-5 MHz

Probeology



Heart

- Windows/Views
 - Parasternal
 - Long axis
 - Short axis
 - Apical
 - 4 chamber
 - Subcostal
 - 4 chamber
 - IVC

Heart











A4C



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<u>S4C</u>

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SIVC



Low EF



Pericardial Effusion

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IVC Collapse















FAST/E-FAST exam



Morrison's Pouch



Morrison's Pouch



Spleno-renal recess



Spleno-renal recess



Positive RUQ











Gastric



Gastric



Gastric







Airway



Airway



Airway



References

